

# ROCKVILLE REPORTS

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A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

## Oprah Visits Rockville to Remember Mattie Stepanek Park Dedication Highlights His Message of Peace

Television maven Oprah Winfrey came to Rockville Saturday, Oct. 18, to honor the memory of Mattie J.T. Stepanek during the dedication of a 26-acre park and peace garden in the King Farm community that honors the young boy's memory.

"I'm here because I loved my guy Mattie," Winfrey said to an awestruck crowd of about 1,000 people who came out to remember the 13-year-old boy who spread his message of hope and peace.

Stepanek, who died in 2004, was afflicted with Dysautonomic Mitochondrial Myopathy (a form of Muscular Dystrophy). His Heartsongs series, a collection of poetry books, were all New York Times Best Sellers.

The dedication of Mattie's Peace Garden Park featured the unveiling of life-sized statues of Mattie and his service dog, Micah. Benches with quotes from Mattie's books, along with personalized bricks, are positioned around the garden and the park.

After surprising Mattie's mother, Jeni Stepanek, on stage with a hug, Winfrey spoke briefly to the crowd about the long-lasting message that Mattie brought to the world through his poetry, his books and his outlook on the world.

"We all have the ability to look inside and find the space of peace," she said.

The message of peace was highlighted throughout the day, which featured speeches from dignitaries, music from a neigh-



Oprah Winfrey surprised Rockville with a visit during the Mattie J.T. Stepanek park dedication.

borhood choir, teen band and musician Nile Rodgers.

"As we honor the memory of Mattie, let us also remember what he and this park stand for, a celebration of life, a reminder to play after every storm," said Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann.

Winfrey also talked about how she had never before fostered the kind of long term relationship with a guest as she did with the Rockville resident, remembering the numer-

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Residents have their say

ous phone calls and e-mails the two exchanged.

She recalled how because Mattie lived on the East Coast, he would send her e-mails describing the sunset.

"I'm sending you the sunset and it has lots of purples in it," Winfrey said of Mattie's e-mail.

"It came," she said she wrote in response. "It had purples — and oranges in it." **RR**

## Old Post Office to Become New Home for City Police

After several years of negotiating and planning for the historic Rockville Post Office, the City officially accepted the property from the federal General Services Administration (GSA) on Oct. 20.

In September, the Mayor and Council approved the acquisition of the property at 2 West Montgomery Ave. for use as its police headquarters.

In 2005, the GSA identified the building as federal surplus and the post office ceased full time operations in 2006. Since then, City staff have worked with federal, state and local boards and commissions as well as neighborhood groups to preserve the historic structure for public use.

"As mayor of Rockville, and as one deeply committed to honoring and preserving Rockville's heritage, I am thrilled to be able to maintain

the historic integrity of the Old Post Office," Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann said.

Improvements will be made to the site and building. Upgrades will include interior renovations and construction of a new annex building on the southwest corner of the property. When complete, the facility will include more than 20,000 square feet of space: approximately 11,500 square feet in the existing building and 9,300 square feet in the annex building.

"The police department is delighted that we will have adequate space to consolidate operations while at the same time continue to be housed in a central location accessible to all," Police Chief Terrance N. Treschuk said.

The City plans to maintain the historic features of the facility and will preserve the building's exterior



City Manager Scott Ullery and George A. Crawford, General Services Administration, sign the deed of transfer for the old Rockville Post Office as the Mayor and Council look on.

along South Washington Street and West Montgomery Avenue, including its distinctive octagonal tower entrance on the corner. Inside, the lobby and the 1940 Works Project Administration mural, "Sugarloaf Mountain," by Judson Smith will be preserved.

"This is another example of the great things that can be accomplished with intergovernmental collaboration, which serves all our citizens so well," Hoffman said. "I would also like to give a special

thanks to Congressman Chris Van Hollen and our state delegation, Sen. Jennie Forehand in particular."

City staff estimate that the total project cost will be approximately \$7.9 million. Of that, approximately \$6.4 million is funded in the Capital Improvements Program. The City has applied for federal police technology funds.

The GSA transferred the facility to the City at no charge because it will be used for homeland security and public safety. **RR**

### Tickets on Sale for 'The Nutcracker' and 'Wizard of Oz'

Tickets for the "The Nutcracker," will go on sale starting Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Under the direction of Claudia Mangan, the Rockville Civic Ballet, comprising 75 adult, teen and children dancers, has performed "The Nutcracker" since 1975.

Shows will be held at 2 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 6 and 13, and at 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 7 and 14. Tickets cost \$14, adults; \$10, children (age 12 and younger) and seniors (age 60 and older). Call for group rates.

Tickets for The Musical Theatre Center production of "The Wizard of Oz" will go on sale starting Saturday, Nov. 1. Performances will be held Jan. 9, 10, 16 and 17.

Both productions will be performed at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive. Call 240-314-8690 for ticket information. **RR**

## November's Best of Rockville

**NEW** Rockville is honoring its **African-American heritage** with a **walking tour** that celebrates the sites and stories associated with the City's African-American history. Full-color exhibit panels were recently installed at 18 locations on the tour.

**11 Veterans Day** honors Rockville residents who have served in the armed forces during a special ceremony and wreath laying at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park.



**1,7-9,14-16** Rockville Musical Theatre performs The Sound of Music, Rodgers and Hammerstein's story of the Von Trapp family during several performances at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

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# ROCKVILLE IS GOING GREEN

To learn more about Rockville's efforts toward building a sustainable City, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment)

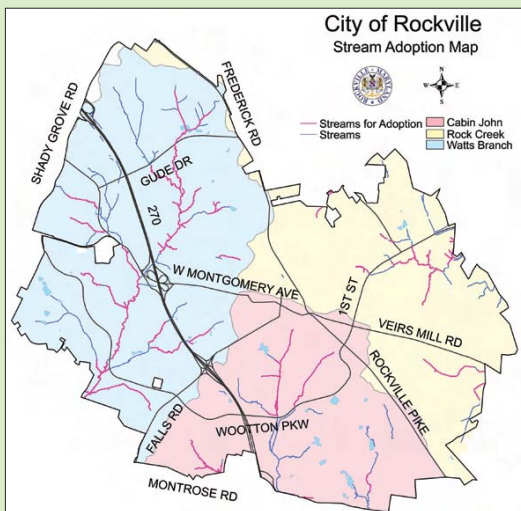
## Residents Learn About Impacts to Watersheds

At least two groups – Girl Scout Troop 6764 and the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board – took part in October in Rockville's Adopt-A-Stream Program, which allows civic associations, scouts, churches, businesses and neighbors to share in maintaining the City's water quality.

*"This program is a wonderful way for Rockville residents to become better stewards of their watershed."*

— Heather Gewandter, Environmental Technician

On Oct. 10, Girl Scout Troop 6764, from Beall Elementary School, cleaned a portion of the Welsh Park Tributary that is part of the Upper Watts Branch Watershed. The stream the girls cleaned is located in the



Streams available for adoption are highlighted in dark pink.

City's West End neighborhood near Beall Elementary School and Welsh Park.

On Oct. 11, the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board cleaned a portion of a West Civic Center Park Tributary

that is part of the Rock Creek Watershed.

"Residents get firsthand exposure to their local natural resources and see firsthand that neighborhood trash that's not properly disposed of can end up



Girl Scout Troop 6764 cleaned a portion of the Welsh Park tributary, near Beall Elementary, in October. The girl's conservation awareness grew through their efforts to make the stream better.

in their streams," said Heather Gewandter, environmental technician. "The Adopt-A-Stream program is a wonderful way for Rockville residents to become better stewards of their watershed."

Anyone can be part of the program, which asks that groups hold two stream cleanups each year, in the fall and the spring. Rockville will provide trash bags, gloves and other materials needed for the cleanups, and will collect all of the debris from the cleanup after it's gathered.

Adopt-A-Stream groups can also participate in other programs in the City that will help maintain

the water that serves residents, including water quality and trash monitoring, and testing along their stream segment.

Each of Rockville's three watersheds – Watts Branch, Rock Creek and Cabin John – has segments available for adoption. There are 23 segments within the Watts Branch watershed, 10 in the Cabin John Creek watershed and 11 in the Rock Creek watershed.

To learn more about the program, visit the City's Web site at [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/adopt-a-stream/index-new.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/adopt-a-stream/index-new.html) or call 240-314-8878. **RR**



## Focus on CITY VEHICLE FLEET SERVICE

### Rockville Begins Using Bio-diesel Blend Fuel

The City of Rockville recently began using a bio-diesel blend in all of its diesel vehicles, including construction vehicles.

Bio-diesel, vegetable oil that goes through a refining process, is a renewable

energy source that generates lower carbon emission than regular fuel and produces better emissions, which directly affect air quality pollutants and greenhouse gases.

The City will use a 5 per-

cent bio-diesel blend during the winter and a 20 percent blend the rest of the year. About 155, nearly 40 percent, of the City's approximately 400-vehicle fleet will use the bio-diesel blend fuel. **RR**

## City Moves to Adopt Green Building Policy

The Mayor and Council directed City staff recently to look at 12 recommendations for a green building policy that the Commission on the Environment outlined.

The recommendations, which range from creating a green fund to help with environmental needs to developing a voluntary program for new and existing homes to implementing an educational outreach program in the City, are based on the Mayor and Council vision to create a sustainable Rockville.

"We believe that the policy should be right-sized for each sector – business,

residential, nonprofit, municipal — of the City and strike a balance between required and voluntary actions appropriate for these economic times and the current trends in our real estate market," said Faith Klareich, chairwoman for the Commission on the Environment. "These policies really force people to look at reducing pollution or put cleaner technologies in place. We have to take action at the city level."

The 12 principles will be reviewed by the City's Environmental Management Division, which will create a proposed program. The public will have an opportunity to comment and that feedback

will be used to build on the program.

Residents will learn about the opportunities to comment once a specific timeline has been set. The Mayor and Council will then be given the draft of the program and open it to the formal public comment process before adoption.

Among the Mayor and Council's seven priorities that were outlined for 2008-2010 is working toward a Green City. Green buildings will meet that vision because they use less water and energy, are made from healthier materials for better occupant wellness and manage stormwater in an environmentally-friendly way. **RR**

## Rainscapes Program Protects Environment with Benefits

### Rebates Help Homeowners Do Their Part

Rockville residents can receive a \$50 rebate for doing their part to help with residential stormwater management through the Rockville Rainscapes Reward Program that will go into effect next spring.

The program, modeled after a program that has been implemented in Montgomery County, is designed to educate residents about the importance of controlling stormwater runoff near their homes and to help them in purchasing the equipment needed to be successful at it.

"Rain barrels are not only a good way to capture the run-off from your roof, but they provide a great source of free water to irrigate your lawn, garden and trees," said Heather Gewandter, Rockville environmental technician.

The Rockville Rainscapes program is funded with \$10,000 from the stormwater fund. A portion of these funds, in coordination with the City of Gaithersburg, will pay for a consultant to design and conduct rain barrel installation workshops.

In its initial phase, the Rockville Rainscapes Rewards program will focus primarily on



Rain barrels help homeowners and the environment.

water harvesting equipment, such as rain barrels. Once the pilot program has been successfully implemented, the City may consider expanding the rewards program to other stormwater runoff controls, like the installation of rain gardens, permeable pavers and conservation landscaping.

Residents who want to participate in the rewards program can receive \$50 per barrel, with a maximum of four barrels allowed at one residence. Because of limited funds – about \$5,500 of the \$10,000 – the rebate applies on a first come, first served basis.

To learn more about the program, call Amanda Rockler at 240-314-8877 or e-mail [arockler@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:arockler@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**



# INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the  
City Government at Work

## Holiday Drive Helps Neighbors in Need Food and Toy Donations Will Assist Rockville Families

The Rockville Mayor and Council kicked off the City's annual Holiday Drive, and are asking residents and organizations to pull together to help those in the community who are in need.

For more than 30 years, Rockville has operated the drive to distribute food and toys to families who need the help. Last year, Rockville provided Thanksgiving food baskets to 575 families and holiday gift certificates to 1,084 children.

"We have historically looked at the Rockville Holiday Drive as a vehicle for the whole community to participate in," said Mary Lou Jacobs, Rockville's community services manager.

"We really see the Holiday Drive as a service not only to the people who receive the food and toys, but those looking at a way to volunteer and give back to the community."

This year, Rockville anticipates helping 700 families with food and toy donations.

Food, toys and monetary donations are accepted. Checks can be made payable to City of Rockville Holiday Drive Fund and mailed to City of Rockville Community Services, 30 Courthouse Square, Suite 100, Rockville, MD 20850.

For questions about the program, how you can help or to have donations picked up, call 240-314-8310. **RR**

### How You Can Help

- **Donate gift certificates** – A \$15 gift card to stores, such as Target, Sports Authority, Old Navy, Giant and Safeway.
- **Organize a food drive** – Civic, school and church groups, as well as businesses can host their own food drive. Donations are needed by Nov. 20 for Thanksgiving.
- **Deliver food baskets** – Make a two-hour commitment to deliver food baskets on Saturday, Nov. 22, to seniors and families without transportation.
- **Sponsor a family** – Donate food and gifts for a specific family (an approximately \$250 donation).
- **Donate new toys** – Toys for children ages 12 and under are needed for the December holidays. Toy donations will be accepted Dec. 10-19.

Call **240-314-8310** to learn more about how to help in the annual Rockville Holiday Drive.

## Completion of Rockville Zoning Ordinance Nears

The Mayor and Council are wrapping up work on the Rockville draft zoning ordinance and map, after more than three years of work to evaluate and rewrite the 30-year-old document.

Following a final work session on the ordinance on Oct. 14, the Mayor and Council expect to hold final discussion and instruction to staff on Monday, Nov. 10. The deadline to submit written testimony on the draft zoning ordinance is 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7.

The Mayor and Council are expected to have the introduction of the ordinance on Nov. 24 and adoption on Dec. 1.

Rockville's zoning ordinance regulates development on all properties in Rockville, including building height, setbacks and accessory structures on residential property,

permitted land uses, and the size and scale of new development. Rockville's zoning ordinance has not been fully revised since 1975.

Rockville began the process of reviewing and rewriting its 30-year-old draft ordinance in 2005. Included in that process was intensive work by a citizen committee, extensive public comment and review, outreach to the residential and business communities, outreach at civic and homeowner association meetings, two public hearings and multiple work sessions before the Planning Commission.

Written testimony may be sent to the Mayor and Council at [mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov) or at 111 Maryland Ave. Additional information, including a full copy the draft ordinance, is available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/zoning](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/zoning). **RR**

## Changes Outlined to City Election Laws

The Mayor and Council are considering several changes to Rockville's election laws, as outlined in a recommendation from the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

The recommendations, four in all, detail changes to the finances associated with candidate campaigns. A final vote is expected later this year.

The changes would allow electronic payments for campaign contributions \$10 and above; raise the maximum campaign contribution per individual for a candidate from \$500 to \$1,000 and raise the maximum contribution from an individual or entity to all candidates or combined campaign committees from \$1,000 to \$2,000; extend the time allowed to report campaign finance reports to the Wednesday or Thursday at 5 p.m. following a contribution cut-off date the previous Friday; and allow for treasurers who do not live within the

Rockville City limits.

In addition the changes to the election law that require Mayor and Council approval, the board is also recommending several administrative changes. Those include posting finance reports on the City Web site within four days of the due date; advising candidates more strongly on the need to follow legal requirements for their submissions; making the availability of bike racks at polling places part of the criteria consideration; asking the Information and Technology Department to make it possible for candidates to fill out finance reports electronically; and improving the board's practice of serving as "roving judges" on election day.

No date has yet been set for the Mayor and Council to take up the recommended changes. For more information, call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280. **RR**

## Review of Comprehensive Master Plan Under Way Community Invited to Comment

A review of the City of Rockville's Comprehensive Master Plan is under way. The Comprehensive Master Plan directs development and conservation activities in Rockville.

Outreach to the community and the various City boards and commissions began in August. The Mayor and Council received a briefing on the process at their Sept. 8 meeting. The Planning Commission is scheduled to discuss the review at its Nov. 5 and Nov. 19 meetings.

The Comprehensive Master Plan was last updated in 2002 and a review of the land-use document is required by the state every six years.

Currently, the Mayor and Council are working to complete the Rockville Zoning Ordinance. The zoning ordinance and master plan work in concert with one another. The Comprehensive Master Plan lays out a broad vision for the City, including future land uses. The zoning ordinance implements that vision.

The City is divided into 18

planning areas and the master plan addresses issues facing each area. It also has sections that cover citywide subject areas, including residential neighborhoods, economic development, non-residential areas, historic preservation, housing, recreation, parks and open space, transportation, and community appearance and design. The City wants residents to give their input on the review.

Residents and business owners can look at specific sections of the master plan depending on their interests. For example, communities and individual citizens may want to find the planning area that covers their neighborhood and provide comments only on that portion. Or a City cycling group may want to do the same for the transportation portion of the plan.

To learn more about the Comprehensive Master Plan and submit comments go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/masterplan/masterplan-review.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/masterplan/masterplan-review.html), or call Ann Wallas at 240-314-8200. **RR**

## Comprehensive Master Plan

**NEXT STEP:** Planning Commission meetings on Wednesday, Nov. 5, and Wednesday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. in Rockville City Hall. These meetings are televised on Rockville Channel 11. Refer to TV schedule on page 8 for details on times.



Mayor  
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember  
John B. Britton



Councilmember  
Piotr Gajewski



Councilmember  
Phyllis Marcuccio



Councilmember  
Anne M. Robbins

## Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Workshops and Public Hearings are televised on Rockville Channel 11, and are available on streaming video at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). Residents may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizens Forum" portion at most General Session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Nov. 3 (Mon.)**, Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 10 (Mon.)**, Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 17 (Mon.)**, Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 24 (Mon.)**, Citizens Forum, 7 p.m.

## Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents for drop-in discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. No appointment is necessary, but a call to the City Clerk Office is appreciated as drop in times are subject to change. Call 240-314-8280.

In addition to Mayor Hoffmann, the Councilmember scheduled for November is:

- **Nov. 17 (Mon.)** John Britton

## Town Hall Meeting

- **Nov. 20 (Thurs.)** Councilmember Gajewski, at City Hall, 8 p.m., not televised

## Boards & Commission Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for:

- Animal Matters Board (one)
- Board of Appeals (one)
- Commission on the Environ. (one)
- Compensation Commission (two)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (one)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs (three)
- Personnel Appeals Board (one)
- Retirement Board (one)
- Rockville Seniors Inc. (one)
- Rockville Sister City (one)
- Sign Review Board (one)
- Traffic and Transportation Commission (one)
- Youth Sports Board (one)

For more information, call the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280 or go to [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov)



## Focus on HOUSING PROGRAMS

Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, "Focus On" will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.

### Do You Know Someone Who is Having Trouble Paying His or Her Mortgage?

Learn how you can prevent your home from going into foreclosure at a free and confidential foreclosure workshop Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Rockville is partnering with the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Montgomery County, HomeFree-USA, Civil Justice and the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland to help residents nearing foreclosure to save their homes.

The number of foreclosed homes in Rockville grew from six in the first quarter of 2007 to

72 in the first quarter of 2008.

The workshop will feature a general information session followed by individual counseling appointments with housing and legal experts. The event will be held at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave. Light refreshments will be available.

Spanish and sign language interpreters are available on request.

Registration is required. To register, call Tanya Hines at 240-314-8113 or e-mail [thinest@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:thinest@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**

## Work Set to Begin in November on New District Courthouse

Work by the state to demolish the former Rockville Library to make way for a new Maryland District Courthouse is scheduled to begin in November, following an approval from the Maryland Board of Public Works on Oct. 15.

While the Mayor and Council opposed the location of the new courthouse at the intersection of Route 28 and Maryland Avenue, funding for the \$71.4 million project was approved by the state last year.

Demolition at the site should be completed in February. The new 94,500-square-foot courthouse is expected to be completed in the next two years, by October 2010.

The City is working with the state to minimize construction

impacts to Rockville residents by prohibiting construction and contractor vehicles from traveling or parking on neighborhood streets, and by requiring the contractor to maintain access to City Hall and Vinson Street.

The lease at the District Court's current location in the gray building at 27 Courthouse Square expires Dec. 31, 2010. By vacating that space, it makes room for an expanded Circuit Court.

The new District Courthouse will feature nine courtrooms and four hearing rooms. In addition to the District Court, it will also now house the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services Parole and Probation Intake Unit, Office of the Public

Defender and Department of General Services, according to the fiscal year 2009 State budget.

Residents, workers and visitors of Rockville can stay informed throughout the demolition process in two ways:

- Sign up to receive e-mails periodically from the City with news and updates about the project.
- Participate on an advisory group that will help City staff communicate effectively with neighbors.

To sign up for the e-mail alerts, participate in the advisory group or ask questions, call Rocio Estrada, Neighborhood Resources Coordinator, at 240-314-8345 or e-mail [restrada@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:restrada@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**



**The cost of monthly parking permits will be decreased in Rockville's Town Center parking garages.**

## Mayor and Council Approve Several Parking Changes, Hold Others for Discussion

The Mayor and Council approved several changes to parking rates and hours in the City but temporarily deferred approval of a proposed expansion of the days and hours of paid parking in the Town Center garages and meters.

Approved changes include:

- Reduction in the cost of a monthly Town Center garage pass from \$85 to \$75 effective Nov. 1;
- Expansion of the number of hours allowed for Town Center garage parking from four to unlimited except on the P1 level in the 355 garage and the street level of the North Washington garage effective Nov. 1; and
- An increase in the rates for on-street meters near the Twinbrook Metro from 25 cents to 50 cents per hour effective Dec. 1.

The Mayor and Council plan to revisit a proposal to expand the days and hours for paid parking at Town Center garages and meters to include weekdays, 7 a.m.-10 p.m., and Saturdays, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. at a future meeting.

The City is considering the expansion of paid-parking hours to reduce the taxpayer subsidy to the Parking Fund and move toward having the fund be self-supporting. If approved, the City will increase the number of hours per week there is a charge for parking from 60 hours to 90 hours, and increase the rate for on-street meter parking. In doing so, the City estimates it will generate more than \$530,000 in annual parking revenues, which will significantly reduce the current subsidy from the budget's General Fund to pay for the Town Center garages. **RR**

## Rockville Residents Envision a Greener, Friendlier Rockville Pike

Rockville residents, workers, business owners and neighborhood associations have worked with the City's Community Planning and Development Services (CPDS) staff during the past 11 months to develop a plan to improve Rockville Pike.

The planning process, called "Rockville's Pike: Envision a Great Place," focuses on the 1.5-mile section of Route 355 between Twinbrook Parkway and Richard Montgomery Drive, and the land on both sides of it.

CPDS staff will release a draft plan to improve Rockville Pike before the end of the year. The report will describe the project's findings and include recommendations for actions on items

identified as challenges or opportunities. The time and date for the release of the report and a public presentation of its findings is to be determined. The public will be encouraged to provide comments on the draft plan.

While working closely with a team of consultants to collect data and conduct technical analyses, CPDS and the consultant team hosted multiple open meetings, conducted interviews with stakeholders and led a community design charrette. The State Highway Administration, Montgomery County Department of Planning and Montgomery County Ride On staff also participated in the design charrette.

Throughout "Rockville's Pike: Envision a Great Place," the City has requested and received input on appropriate approaches to regulating development; transportation challenges and opportunities for the automobile, transit, pedestrians and bicycles; environmental impacts; the look and feel of the streetscape; and economic trends along the Pike. The project's goal is to create a great place for people to shop, live, work, gather and move around.

For more information about the "Rockville's Pike: Envision a Great Place" project go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike) or call Mayra Bayonet at 240-314-8214. **RR**

## Rockville's Pike at a Glance

Rockville hosted a series of meetings on "Rockville's Pike: Envision a Great Place" since kicking off the project in December. The following offers a brief timeline and explanation of what has taken place since then.

- First public meeting was held in December to kick off the project
- Second public meeting, "Stakeholder Workshop," was held in February. Participants engaged in exercises focused on what they liked and did not like along the Pike, and on improving commercial areas, community appearance, driving and parking, living on the

- Pike and walking. Residents said they wanted to reduce the amount of paved surfaces and add more green space; create a more urban feel, especially on the southern section of the Pike; develop parking behind storefronts; increase accessibility and walkability; and improve alternate forms of transportation.
- Third public meeting was held in March, when the consultant team presented its preliminary findings about transportation and urban form along the Pike, and then received comments and questions.
- Fourth public meeting was held in May and featured a

presentation of preliminary economic and market analyses, after which residents made comments and asked questions.

- Fifth public meeting was the first day of the community design charrette, which was held May 31 to June 4. Throughout the charrette, residents said they would like to make the Pike a "greener" place, both environmentally and visually; develop a multi-modal boulevard with pedestrian-friendly features; improve connectivity to neighborhoods; and promote an attractive and approachable streetscape with buildings closer to the street and high-quality architecture. **RR**



## Resident Input Sought with Fifth Citizen Survey

Every other year, Rockville randomly selects 2,000 households to participate in the Rockville Citizen Survey.

In 2007, residents who responded to the survey indicated that among the qualities that set the City apart from other communities is its sense of community.

There are dozens of characteristics that residents ranked above average during the last biennial survey. Criteria used for ranking ranged from the kind of place Rockville is to raise children to the City's overall appearance to recreation programs and centers and senior center services.

In 43 of 57 categories, residents surveyed said they rated Rockville above the national norm, including the overall quality of life and sense of community.

The fifth such survey will be sent to households in November. The surveys are expected to be mailed the weeks

of Nov. 3 and 10, along with prepaid return envelopes.

"The citizen survey is an important feedback tool that the City uses to measure its performance," said Linda Moran, assistant to the City Manager. "It allows the City to provide high value services to its residents by continuously improving upon its operations."

The survey is conducted by the National Research Center in Boulder, Colo., and a report of the survey results, which now contains 34 questions, will be presented to the Mayor and Council in March.

Among the areas the survey will seek resident input on are quality of city services, customer service, communications outreach and life in Rockville.

The survey will also be available to residents who speak other languages. The survey will be available in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Russian. **RR**



The bus stop at N. Washington Street, across from Dawson Avenue, is among those with a new covered shelter.

## City Installs Commuter Shelters at Bus Stops

Rockville recently installed covered shelters at 15 bus stops throughout the City. The project is part of an ongoing effort to encourage mass transit ridership for Rockville residents, and to make it easier and more pleasant for riders in inclement weather.

Shelters are generally installed at stops with 25 or more riders. There are currently 70 shelters that have been installed in the City.

The City plans to install more shelters in the next few years.

Shelters were installed at the following locations:

- Southbound Nelson Street at Crocus Drive
- Southbound Nelson Street at Beall Avenue
- Southbound Route 355 at College Parkway
- Southbound Stonestreet

Avenue at Frederick Road

- Southbound Veirs Mill Road at Claggett Drive
- Northbound Veirs Mill Road at Claggett Drive
- Northbound Veirs Mill Road at Twinbrook Parkway
- Southbound Rockville Pike Across from Thompson Avenue
- Northbound Rockville Pike at Edmonston Drive
- Northbound N. Washington Street Across from Dawson Avenue
- Northbound Maryland Avenue at Potomac Valley Road
- Northbound Twinbrook Parkway at Fletcher Place
- Northbound Twinbrook Parkway at Linthicum Street
- Northbound Seven Locks Road at Fortune Terrace **RR**

## Make Safety a Priority During Leaf Collection Season

Rockville's fall leaf vacuuming program started this past week and will continue through Dec. 24. In that time, the days will continue to get shorter and the piles will continue to get bigger as more leaves fall.

That's why residents need to be aware of several precautions to take in neighborhoods as collection dates approach and as more leaves fall from the trees.

Some simple rules to follow are:

- Don't park vehicles on leaf piles as it could start a fire.
- Don't let children play in leaf piles that are in the gutter or adjacent street.
- Don't drive over leaf piles.

The Department of Public Works provides two pick-ups for residents every fall between mid-October and December. The City is divided into five



### AREA 1

Nov. 17-21  
Dec. 22-24

### AREA 2

Oct. 20-24  
Nov. 24-28

### AREA 3

Oct. 27-31  
Dec. 1-5

### AREA 4

Nov. 3-7  
Dec. 8-12

### AREA 5

Nov. 10-14  
Dec. 15-19

pick-up areas.

Residents should rake leaves to the curb or just next to the pavement if no curb exists. Limbs, rocks and other heavy debris should be removed from leaf piles.

For more information, call 240-314-8570 between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The schedule and map can also be found online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/leaf.htm](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/leaf.htm). **RR**

## Projects in the Pipeline

The City of Rockville has numerous projects that will come before various boards, commissions and the Mayor and Council in November. Each are in a different phase of review.

### Highlights:

- Review for an existing small synagogue located in a for-

mer residence, 200 block of Rollins Avenue – Planning Commission, Nov. 5

- Request to construct a branch bank with customer drive through facilities, along with a drug store with customer drive through, Wootton Crossing – Planning Commission, Nov. 19

- Three office buildings with surface and garage parking location, Falls Grove North – Planning Commission, Nov. 19

To learn more about these and other projects being reviewed, go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/government/cpds.htm](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/government/cpds.htm). **RR**

## Job Opportunities With the City

The City of Rockville has several job openings and invites you to apply. Rockville prides itself on providing its residents with premium quality, responsive, high value services. If you value innovation, teamwork and take pride in your work, the City may be the place for you.

### Job Highlights:

- **Laborer** – General Maintenance: Routine tasks involved in the maintenance and

repair of the City's streets, sidewalks, curb/gutters, right-of-ways and storm water systems.

- **Rock Climbing Gym Worker** – Recreation and Parks: No experience necessary; just a sense of adventure and an eagerness to learn new skills. Part-time hours include evenings and weekends. E-mail Jon McLaren at [jmclaren@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jmclaren@rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8625 for information.

- **Civil Engineer I** – Traffic and Transportation: Performs difficult professional and related administrative work in the investigation, design and construction of municipal traffic, transportation and other projects.

To learn more about these and other position go to [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) and click on careers in the navigation bar on the left. **RR**

## City to Update Historic Building Catalog

The City's Department of Community Planning and Development Services is updating Rockville's Historic Building Catalog and will survey and take photographs of residences and structures built before 1945.

The project, which began during the summer, is funded by a grant from the National Park Service's Preserve America program.

The Comprehensive Master

Plan of 2002 recommends surveying and evaluating these buildings for historic significance. The catalog was last updated in 1989.

Historical designation can be beneficial to property owners through county and state tax credits. Montgomery County provides a 10 percent property tax credit for exterior rehabilitation maintenance work. The state, through the Maryland Historic Trust, provides homeowners of

historic homes with a 20 percent income tax credit for pre-approved interior and exterior rehabilitation work, including painting, plumbing and heating/cooling unit installation. Both programs can be used at the same time, potentially providing historic homeowners up to 30 percent in savings on their home maintenance and repair.

Stewardship of historic property continued on page 8...

# OUT & ABOUT IN ROCKVILLE

Highlighting City Events and Programs



Boy Scouts helped with the installation of signs for the African-American heritage walking tour.

## Rockville's African-American Heritage Honored with New Community Exhibits

The history of Rockville's African Americans is marked by strength, ingenuity and acts of great courage.

In 2003, the City of Rockville Historic District Commission established an African-American Walking Tour, celebrating the sites and stories associated with Rockville's African-American history. Full-color exhibit panels were recently installed at the 18 locations and buildings on the tour, commemorating the geography of this culture and telling of struggle and achievement in the face of oppression and segregation.

Andrew Cook, Life Scout, Boy Scouts of America, coordinated the installation of the exhibits in fulfillment of his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project. Cook led a team of six scouts working on the installation.

"It's a personal thing, to be able to contribute so much to this cultural aspect of Rockville," Cook said.

The walking tour and panels touch on historic themes

common to the African-American experience, such as slavery, emancipation, religion, education, commerce and civil rights.

Although some of the sites on the tour were demolished for new development in the 1950s and during urban renewal efforts in the 1960s, their stories remain. These accounts of Rockville's African Americans are filled with tragedy, conflict and struggle, but also with hope, determination and community pride. They tell not only of African-American history, but also of the shared experiences of Rockville's growth as a community.

The exhibits feature nationally known African Americans such as Father Divine, Josiah Henson, Clarence "Pint" Isreal and William B. Gibbs who inspired others with their kindness, courage and moral conviction. Also featured are locally prominent entrepreneurs, such as George T. Johnson, George Russell Snowden and Jesse and Celestine Hebron who provided

commercial services that were the economic backbone of the African-American community during segregation.

Locations on the tour include important civic and educational structures, such as the Galilean Fisherman's Hall, the First Rockville Colored School and Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church, as well as slave-owning establishments, such as Adam Robb's Tavern, the Beall-Dawson House and the Prettyman House.

Many of the historical exhibit panels are located at sites that currently have markers interpreting Rockville's early history. These stories will now be augmented by the African-American experiences associated with the sites, including the enslaved labor that built and sustained these now historic structures.

For more information on the walking tour, go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/AAHwalkingtour.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AAHwalkingtour.html), call Jeff Winstel at 240-314-8232, or e-mail him at [jwinstel@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jwinstel@rockvillemd.gov). **RR**

## Rockville Welcomes Visiting German Teens

The Mayor and Council acknowledged 12 students from Rockville's sister city, Pinneberg, Germany, with a presentation of certificates at their Oct. 13 meeting.

The teens and two teachers visited Rockville for a three-week immersion in American culture beginning Sept. 26.

Local families hosted the teens while they attended Thomas S. Wootton High School. The students practiced



German teens visit the Rooftop Deck.

their language skills in English and German classes.

This visit is the most recent in a series of exchanges between Rockville and Pinneberg, whose sister city relationship was established more than 50 years ago. During the last half-century, the two cities have promoted cultural diversity and knowledge, and provided opportunities for educational, music, art, sport and professional exchanges. **RR**



Each year the City hosts a special Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Park at Rockville Pike and Veirs Mill Road.

## Rockville Honors Veterans with Ceremony

Rockville will host a Veterans Day ceremony to remember those who have served in the armed forces at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11.

The ceremony will feature a wreath laying, a 21-gun salute and the playing of "Taps" by the Rockville Concert Band.

The event is hosted by the Mayor and Council. Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Veterans Park is located at the intersection of Route 355 and Veirs Mill Road (Route

28) in downtown Rockville. Parking is available at St. Mary's Catholic Church and School.

Rockville City Hall and several other facilities will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 11. Some facilities will open and operate during their regular hours. Recycling and refuse will be collected. Parking meter regulations will be suspended that day.

Go to [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) for more information. **RR**



Runners await the start gun at the 2006 Rockville 10K/5K Run.

## Runners Take Their Mark at Rockville 10K/5K

The 33rd annual Rockville 10K/5K Run will take place at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 2, in King Farm. The race is hosted by the City of Rockville, presented by King Farm Village Center and Regency Centers, and conducted by the Montgomery County Road Runners Club.

The 10-kilometer/5-kilometer run serves as a third leg in the Rockville Triple Race Series. The 10K run is a qualifier for the 2008 Maryland Senior Olympics and a qualifier for runners age 50 and over to the 2009 National Senior Olympics in San Francisco.

New for the race this year is the use of the chip timing system,

which provides quicker and more accurate race scoring.

Register for the race by Oct. 31 online at [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) or mail an entry form to Rockville 10K/5K - City of Rockville, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Entry forms available at City Hall.

Race packet pick-up and late registration is available at RNJ Sports, 11910R Parklawn Drive, Rockville. Registration is \$30 by Nov. 1 and \$33 on race day.

Call 240-314-8620 for more information.

If you don't want to run, but want to volunteer, go to [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) or call 301-460-8888. **RR**



## In Brief

### Recycling and Refuse Program to Start

Starting the week of October 27, Rockville will begin collecting recycling and refuse for about 4,000 households in more than a dozen neighborhoods located in phase 1 of the new once-per-week, semi-automated, curbside collection system.

Phase 1 residents should have received one brown cart for all recyclables and one gray cart for refuse, along with a program guide.

Learn more online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse).

CALL 240-314-8568 FOR INFO

### Still Looking for Recycling Answers?

With phase 1 of Rockville's once-per-week semi-automated recycling and refuse program set to start on Monday, Oct. 27, residents may still have some questions.

The City has a variety of ways to help you find those answers. Rockville Channel 11 will air a program this next month to help guide you, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse).

[www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse) to learn more about the program.

CALL 240-314-8568 FOR INFO

### And Still More on Recycling and Refuse

With the holidays nearing, it's a good time to understand Rockville's recycling and refuse collection schedule. The City does not collect recycling or refuse on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 27; Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 25; or New Year's Day, Thursday, Jan. 1.

Residents in phase 1 of the new once-per-week semi-automated recycling and refuse program will have collection shifted to the following day. Friday collection will be made on Saturday.

Residents who still have twice-per-week collection should hold their recycling and refuse until the next regularly scheduled collection day.

Visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse).

CALL 240-314-8568 FOR INFO

### Join the Asian Pacific American Task Force

Residents and business owners

of Asian-American heritage or even family members of Asian-American family members can join Rockville's Asian Pacific American Task Force.

The task force was established to enhance communication between city government and Asian Pacific American residents, and to foster appreciation and celebration of Asian Pacific American culture.

To get involved, submit an Expression of Interest Form to the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Forms are available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/government/commissions/InterestForm.pdf](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/government/commissions/InterestForm.pdf).

CALL 240-314-8316 FOR INFO

### Plenty for Teens to Do in the City

If you're a teenager and you're looking for something fun to do with other teens in Rockville, try one of three trips planned with the City's Teen Programs.

On Tuesday, Nov. 11, students in grades six to eight can spend their afternoon bowling from noon-3:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 for residents, \$17 for VIP members and \$20 for nonresidents.

On Wednesday, Nov. 12, teens can catch a movie, following early dismissal from Montgomery County Public Schools. The cost is \$10 for residents, \$12 for VIP members and \$15 for nonresidents.

The cost for both half-day trips includes admission fees, transportation and supervision. Pick-up and drop-off are at Robert Frost and Julius West middle schools.

Don't miss Saturday Fun Day, on Nov. 29, from 4-9:30 p.m. with a trip for students in grades six to 12 to see the Washington Wizards play the Atlanta Hawks. The cost is \$35 for residents, \$45 for VIP members and \$55 for nonresidents.

Pick-up and drop-off take place at Julius West Middle School and Twinbrook Community Recreation Center.

CALL 240-314-8634 FOR INFO

### Find Out What's Happening 'This Week in Rockville'

Rockville offers a new E-newsletter service that helps you navigate all there is to do in the City.

The E-newsletter, called "This Week in Rockville," is sent out every Thursday afternoon and gives you a look at the week ahead. In it, you will find information about recreation and park programs, special events, important meetings and more.

It's easy to sign up for and helps you navigate what's going on in Rockville. To sign up for the E-newsletter, go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/contacts/listservs.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/contacts/listservs.html) and choose "City Events."

CALL 240-314-8116 FOR INFO

### Representatives from Rockville Needed for County Board

The Western Montgomery County Citizen's Advisory Board is seeking representatives from Rockville.

The primary role of the board is to offer substantive advice on regional issues and needs to the county executive and the County Council.

For information on applying go to [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgtmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/boards/boards.asp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgtmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/boards/boards.asp).

CALL 240-777-2528 FOR INFO

## CITY

**1,8,15,22** **Rockville Growers Only Farmers Market** Fresh cut flowers, plants, herbs, fruits, vegetables and baked goods. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; corner of Route 28 and Monroe Street; FREE parking.

**11** **Veterans Day** Ceremony and wreath laying to honor those who have served. 11 a.m.; Veterans Park. FREE.

## ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

**1,7-9,14-16** **The Sound of Music** Rockville Musical Theatre performs Rodgers and Hammerstein's story of the Von Trapp family as they find a government, love and music and escape from the Nazis. Shows at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets \$20, adults; \$18, seniors (age 62 and older); \$16, students (age 18 and under). Call 240-314-8690.

**2** **Sunday Afternoon Concert** The U.S. Navy Band Chamber Ensemble performance in the conservatory of Glenview Mansion. 2 p.m.; donations accepted. Call 240-314-8682. FREE.

**23** **Rockville Concert Band** Americana Concert performed with guest conductor Rob Putt. 3 p.m.; Call 240-314-8681. FREE; donations accepted.

**2-23** **Art Exhibit** Featured artists are Marianne Giguere, original computer generated prints; Florence Kang, mixed media; JoAnn Clayton, acrylic on canvas. Meet the artist opening reception 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2. Call 240-314-8682. FREE.

## NATURE & OUTDOOR

All programs held at Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless otherwise noted. Registration required. Register online at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8770.

## november calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

**1** **Scout Badge Days: Brownie Animal Try-It Badge** Naturalists help Brownies complete requirements to achieve the Animal Try-It Badge. All materials provided. No badges. Rain or shine. Dress for the weather. Call Melinda Norton at 240-314-8771 for information or to register. 10 a.m.-noon or 2-4 p.m. \$12RES/\$14NR.

**8** **Hike the Frederick Watershed** An 8-mile circuit hike at the Frederick watershed is a moderately difficult route over hilly and rocky terrain. Bring a picnic lunch. Cost includes transportation and leadership. Register by Oct. 28. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; ages 10-over; \$37RES/\$46NR.

**11** **Ready for Winter** Meet some of Croydon Creek's resident critters and learn how they prepare for winter and cope with cold. Dress for the weather. Register by Nov. 5. 2-3 p.m.; ages 6-9; \$7RES/\$9NR.

**12** **Jr. Naturalist Program: Mini Bio Blitz** Help catalog the animals and plants around Croydon Creek during the bio-blitz, a detailed inventory of living organisms in a specified area. We will repeat this in the spring and compare lists. 4-5:30 p.m.; ages 10-14; \$12RES/\$14NR.

**20** **Tiny Tot Walk: Turkey Time** Join us at the Nature Center for turkey stories, hands-on activities and crafts. Dress for the weather. 10:30-11:15 a.m.; ages 2-3 ½; \$6RES/\$7NR.

**20** **Tyke Hike: Terrific Turkeys** Learn more about turkeys through stories, hands-on activities and a craft. Dress for the weather. 1-2 p.m.; ages 3 ½-6; \$6RES/\$7NR.

**22** **Campfire: Animals Nobody Loves** Hang out by the campfire, enjoy a treat and learn why we should love all animals, even the creepy ones. Bring blankets or lawn chairs. An adult must accompany children under age 10. Register by Nov. 14. 6-7 p.m.; \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

**22** **Holiday Cards** Learn some card making techniques and make

three different cards to take home. Register by Nov. 14. 2-3:30 p.m.; ages 13-over; \$12RES/\$14NR.

## SENIORS

All programs are held at Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Call 240-314-8800.

**3** **Veterans Benefits and Recognition** Paul Prozialeck, director of Veterans Service Programs for Maryland, will discuss state programs and services. A light lunch will follow. Register by Oct. 27. 10:30 a.m.-noon; FREE MEM/RES/\$2NR.

**3,5,10** **Word Perfect** Learn how to create documents, customize menus, shortcut keys and toolbars specifically for you. 1-3 p.m. Monday and Wednesdays; \$24M/\$31R/\$37NR.

**5** **November Birthday Party** Celebrate with entertainment by Herb Fredrickson Dancers. Register by Oct. 29. 1:30-3 p.m.; \$24M/\$31R/\$37NR.

**5** **Clarify Computer Concepts** Beginner computer class that follows the basic introductory class. 10 a.m.-noon; \$5M/\$7R/\$10NR.

**6,13** **Simple Word Processing** Introduction class. 1-3 p.m.; \$5M/\$7/\$10NR.

**6** **Escape the "Holidayze"** Learn strategies for managing your holiday preparations. Register by Oct. 30. 10:30 a.m.-noon; \$3M/\$4R/\$5NR.

**12** **Potholders with Pizzazz** Make new potholders without having to sew a binding. Material list will be mailed to participants. Register by Nov. 5. 9:30-11:30 a.m.; \$5M/\$6R/\$8NR; \$3 material fee for common use items payable to instructor.

**12,17,19** **Digital Photography II** Emphasis on individual controls, manual, aperture, shutter speed and flash. Understanding the importance of depth of field and how to use it are the basis of assignments. 1-3 p.m.; \$35M/\$44R/\$55NR.

**12** **Japanese Kimonos** Learn the history of Kimonos, Obis and Uchikakes with an explanation of materials, fabrics, flowers and designs used based on the occasion. Register by Nov. 5. 1-2:30 p.m.; \$5M/\$7R/\$9NR.

**13** **Holiday Side Dishes to Go** Join Chef Judy to start a new tradition with dishes to take and share. Dishes will include rosemary roasted cherry tomatoes, carrot apple bake, marinated squash and more. Register by Nov. 6. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; \$23M/\$29R/\$36NR.

**13** **Seasons Celebration** The 18-piece Olney Orchestra with vocalist will play for your dancing and listening pleasure. Light refreshments served. Register by Nov. 6. 7:15-9:15 p.m.; \$10M/\$12R/\$15NR.

**18,20** **Computer Basics** Introduction to the use of computers. 10-11:30 a.m.; \$5M/\$7R/\$10NR.

**18** **Aging: Can it be Funny?** This workshop looks at aging with fun. 10-11:30 a.m.; free.

**18** **What is Happening with the Economy?** Take a look at current trends and what might be on the horizon. 1-3 p.m.; FREE.

**18,25&Dec.2** **Microsoft Excel** Learn how to enter data, create a basic worksheet, and design, develop, format and manipulate spreadsheets with MS Excel. 1-3 p.m.; \$24M/\$31R/\$37R.

**19** **Jefferson Café 2008** The Montgomery College Paul Peck Institute for American Culture and Civic Engagement increases knowledge of American culture, history, principles and political traditions. Register by Nov. 12. 2-3 p.m.; FREE MEM/RES/\$2NR.

**20** **Savvy Eating for the Holidays** Holidays and weight gain do not have to be synonymous; learn how not to over indulge. 1-2 p.m.; FREE.

**21** **Santa Sack-Pillow Case** Learn to make a pillowcase that works as a gift bag. The instructor will supply fabrics and thread. Each participant should bring a portable sewing machine. Register by Nov. 14. 10 a.m.-noon; \$12M/\$14/\$16 NR.

## BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted.

**5** **Rockville Bike Advisory Committee** 7:15 p.m. Meets the first Wednesday of the month.

**5,19** **Planning Commission** 7 p.m. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

**8** **Board of Appeals** 9:30 a.m.

**12** **Sister City Corporation** 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Wednesday of the month.

**12** **Commission on the Environment** 7:30 p.m.

**12** **Cultural Arts Commission** 7 p.m.

**17** **Rockville Seniors, Inc.** 1 p.m., Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Meets the third Tuesday of the month.

**18** **Human Services Advisory Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

**18** **Landlord/Tenant Affairs Commission** 6 p.m.

**19** **Rockville Housing Enterprises** 6:30 p.m., 621-A Southlawn Lane. Meets the third Wednesday of the month.

**20** **Senior Citizens Commission** 10 a.m. to noon, Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Meets the third Thursday of the month.

**20** **Historic District Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month.

**25** **Traffic and Transportation Commission** 7:30 p.m. Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.

## Come Audition for a Role in Rockville's Annual African-American Heritage Show

The City of Rockville's youth performance troupe, The Finest!, will host auditions on Wednesday, Nov. 5, for the 14th annual African-American Heritage Production.

Each year, the Rockville troupe puts on a production that gives tribute to African Americans. For 2009, the troupe will perform "African-American Contributions to Broadway," which will high-

light a variety of scenes and vignettes from Broadway shows that have been impacted by African-American artists and technicians. The production will capture scenes from musicals, comedies and dramas.

The production is being directed and choreographed by Kashi-Tara Barrett and Kelly Chauncey Smith. Rehearsals will begin in November.

Auditions will be held at 6

p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 W. Edmonston Drive. A multicultural cast of actors, dancers and singers, ages 6 to adult, is needed. At the audition, potential cast members will be required to present a short memorized poem or monologue, as well as to learn a short dance routine and do a "cold" reading.

If chosen for the show, a \$30 performance fee is due Nov. 30.

For more information, call Karen Rawlins, community recreation program supervisor, at 240-314-8633 or e-mail [krawlins@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:krawlins@rockvillemd.gov).

Individuals with disabilities who require assistance for this event, or who have questions about accessibility, can call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8100 (TTY 240-314-8137). **RR**



The City's new recycling and refuse program "Trash Talk" will air in November.

## Rockville Channel 11 Debuts 'Trash Talk' this Month

Tune in to Trash Talk: Rockville's New Recycling and Refuse Program on Rockville Channel 11 during November to find out what can and can't be recycled with the City's new single-stream system.

This fast-paced and interesting program provides information about the recycling and refuse collection system that began in about 4,000 City households.

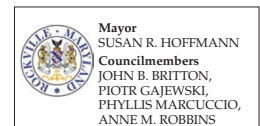


Trash Talk features examples of common household items that can and cannot be recycled.

Everyone will benefit from the program in the next year.

The show tells you everything you need to know, including the new cart selection process and details on semi-automated, curbside collection. Get an overview of the new service from Director of Public Works Craig Simoneau and Sanitation Supervisor Ray Foreman.

Check the Rockville Channel 11 schedule for air dates and times and for more information about the new service visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse). **RR**



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Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.

## Rockville Channel 11 Wins National Awards for Excellence

Rockville Channel 11 was honored with two awards by the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) at its annual conference in Atlanta. The awards recognized the station's Election 2007 coverage and its public safety program "Every 15 Minutes."

This was the 14th consecutive year that Rockville Channel 11 has received at least one national award for its programming, despite competing in certain categories against the cable channels of the nation's largest cities. The annual NATOA Government Programming Awards competition recognizes excellence in television, multimedia and electronic programming developed by municipal agencies. Programs are judged on content and creative elements, technical and engineering production elements and overall quality.

"These awards are a great honor for our channel and staff. We are grateful for the support and assistance we have received from other City departments, management and the Mayor and Council," said Doug Breisch, Rockville's television and telecommunications manager. "We are especially pleased that our election

coverage was judged to be on the same level as some of the largest municipalities in the country.

In the election coverage category, Rockville won second place. Rockville's election coverage included public service announcements, live and recorded candidate debates and forums, candidate segments and a live election night program with results, interviews and background segments.

The "Every 15 Minutes" program was developed as a key component of the City's annual campaign to reduce teen drinking and driving. It won second place in the public safety category.

"I believe the programs that were recognized are representative of the generally consistent high quality and professionalism of all programs produced by the staff of Rockville Channel 11," Breisch said.

Rockville Channel 11 is also a finalist in three categories of the annual 3CMA "Savvy" competition for excellence in government communications.

Residents can view Rockville Channel 11 programming on cable or on the Internet at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11/index.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11/index.html). **RR**



The Rockville Heights Historic District, established Oct. 13, includes four buildings on Fleet Street and one on Maryland Avenue.

### Historic Building Catalog

continued from page 5

erty not only benefits the owner, but it benefits the community by maintaining Rockville's sense of place and neighborhood character. Studies show that properties in historic districts appreciate in value at a greater rate than non-historic properties. In addition, rehabilitating historic properties puts less material in landfills.

The survey information, such as prevalence of architectural styles and information on the people who live in Rockville, will yield a better understanding and appreciation of Rockville's past and the built environment.

Property owners interested in historic designation and the tax credit program should call the City's Historic Preservation Planners at 240-314-8230. **RR**

— by Joanna Hall,  
Architectural Historian Intern

### A Glance at the Month Ahead

- Get an update on the status of projects, programs and initiatives that support the Mayor and Council vision priorities for work completed through the first quarter of fiscal year 2009.
- Special Insert on nonprofit agencies that serve Rockville residents will give a glimpse into who those agencies are, what they do and how you can help.
- Holiday programs offer something for everyone in Rockville.

THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL OCTOBER PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE							
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission	Historic District Commission	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Historic District Commission	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission
6 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 a.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 a.m.	How To Shorts	Arts Sampler	Walk Safe	Rockville Rides	Arts Sampler	How To Shorts	The Rockville Way
7:30 a.m.	Arts Sampler	Walk Safe	Where We Live	Arts Sampler	Walk Safe	Arts Sampler	Where We Live
8 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 a.m.	Historic District Commission	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council
9 a.m.	Where We Live	Arts Sampler	Community Mediation	How To Shorts	The Rockville Way	Where We Live	Arts Sampler
9:30 a.m.	Exploring Rockville's Past	The Rockville Way	Walk Safe	Trash Talk	Walk Safe	Where We Live	Arts Sampler
10 a.m.	The Rockville Way	Community Mediation	The Rockville Way	Exploring Rockville's Past	How To Shorts	Where We Live	Arts Sampler
10:30 a.m.	Arts Sampler	How To Shorts	Rebirth of a Town Center	Community Mediation	Exploring Rockville's Past	Where We Live	Arts Sampler
11 a.m.	Where We Live	Into the Blue	Where We Live	Into the Blue	Where We Live	Where We Live	Trash Talk
11:30 a.m.	Where We Live	Walk Safe	Where We Live	Rockville Rides	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Community Mediation
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 p.m. until meeting ends	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Historic District Commission	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission
4 p.m.	Trash Talk	How To Shorts	The Rockville Way	How To Shorts	Trash Talk	Trash Talk	How To Shorts
4:30 p.m.	How To Shorts	Walk Safe	Walk Safe	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler
5 p.m.	Walk Safe	Trash Talk	How To Shorts	Where We Live	Rockville Rides	Where We Live	How To Shorts
5:30 p.m.	Arts Sampler	Into the Blue	Arts Sampler	Trash Talk	The Rockville Way	Walk Safe	Arts Sampler
6 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 p.m.	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Walk Safe	Planning Commission	Trash Talk	Mayor & Council	Exploring Rockville's Past
7:30 p.m.	Where We Live	The Rockville Way	Rockville Rides	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Where We Live	Walk Safe
8 p.m.	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	The Rockville Way
8:30 p.m.	Where We Live	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Arts Sampler	Into the Blue
9 p.m.	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live	Where We Live
9:30 p.m.	How To Shorts	How To Shorts	How To Shorts	How To Shorts	How To Shorts	How To Shorts	How To Shorts
10 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
11 p.m.	Community Mediation	Rebirth of a Town Center	Community Mediation	Walk Safe	The Rockville Way	How To Shorts	Arts Sampler
11:30 p.m.	The Rockville Way	Walk Safe	Arts Sampler	Into the Blue	Arts Sampler	Walk Safe	Community Mediation